(b) if so, the salient features of this scheme;

(c) the estimated cost of this aircraft; and

(d) the time by which manufacturing of such aircraft is likely to be started and this scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b) Small aircraft can be manufactured only after obtaining industrial licence. At present, National Aerospace Laboratory is developing light trainer aircraft Hansa-II and a 14 seater utility aircraft Saras Duet. Besides, 2 seater trainer aircraft Swati has been developed indigenously and is being manufactured by BHEL, Haridwar.

(c) The cost of Swati aircraft is approximately Rs. 36.00 lakhs. Cost of other aircraft cannot be given as they are still under development.

(d) while Swati aircraft is already being manufactured, the other two aircraft are still under development.

[English]

Revenue Earned by Doordarshan/AIR through Commercial Advertisements

1070. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the revenue earned by Doordarshan and AIR through commercial advertisements as on January, 1997;

(b) the criterie adopted to select good advertisements to be telecast;

(c) the steps taken to increase the revenue of Doordarshan and AIR;

(d) whether there is a stiff competition from various satellite channels on the tariff for commercialisation;

(e) the steps taken to offer more reasonable rates on Doordarshan?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Total revenue earned by AIR and Doordarshan from April, 1994 till January, 1997 is Rs. 68.15 crores and Rs. 465.12 crores respectively.

(b) The advertisements are approved for telecast on Doordarshan strictly as per the code for commercial advertising on Doordarshan.

(c) Constant efforts are being made by both Doordarshan and AIR to improve the functioning as well as the revenue earnings which is a continuous prosess.

(d) Yes Sir.

(e) Doordarshan rationalises its rates from time to time keeping in view the market trends and norms for advertisements.

[Translation]

Survey in regard to Health of Labourers

1071. SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey in regard to health of labourers working in factories under Satna district of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Privatisation of Telecom Services in Gujarat

1072. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to privatise telecommunication services in Gujarat especially in Chhota Udaipur, tribal, backward and rural areas;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the agencies involved engaged for the purpose;

(c) whether the Government have made any controlling on these private agencies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to avoid conflict of interest between private and public sector industrialist?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The Government has permitted the entry of Private Sector in providing Basic Telephone Services in the country including the State of Gujarat.

(b) M/s Reliance Telecom Ltd have been issued a Letter of Intent for providing Basic Telephone Services in Gujarat Circle.

(c) and (d) Detailed guidlines have been given in the tender conditions and the Lincence Agreement for control on the activities of the Private Operators e.g., they cannot charge more tariff than that fixed by D.o.T.,

(e) There are no public sector industrialist in this case and hence the question of conflict of interest does not arise. As far as Department of Telecom is concerned, sufficient safeguards are provided.

Turnover of Indian Telecom Manufacturing Industry

1073. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian telecom manufacturing industry is likely to face 10% fall in its turnover in the current year;